



U.S. Embassy Almaty  
Consular Section  
Information Message



**This message is intended for the American community in Kazakhstan. If you have any questions, please contact the Consular Section at the following address: Almaty, 97 Zholdasbekov St, 17<sup>th</sup> floor, Tel: (3272) 504802, Fax: (3272) 504884, E-mail: [consularalmaty@state.gov](mailto:consularalmaty@state.gov); Website: [www.usembassy.kz](http://www.usembassy.kz). If you wish to be added to our e-mail distribution, we invite you to complete the registration process through our new registration website. To access the site please enter the following link address <http://travel.state.gov> or directly, at <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs>.**

The Turkish Ministry of Health has confirmed human cases of the H5N1 strain of avian influenza in Turkey. Authorities are currently investigating additional human cases. The Turkish Ministry of Agriculture has announced that animal infections have been found throughout the country.

Given the situation in Turkey, American citizens are reminded to avoid all contact with live poultry, wild birds, commercial or backyard poultry farms, and poultry markets, including roadside markets. In addition, people are recommended not to purchase chickens or eggs in the marketplaces to protect themselves from smuggled chickens from Turkey and Russia.

American Citizens are advised to be familiar with the procedures for safe handling of poultry products, including extensive cleansing and thorough cooking and to begin individual preparations, including maintaining a stockpile of canned food and water to last at least three weeks, a routine precaution in the event of any unforeseen emergency.

For more information on avian influenza, see the State Department's Avian Influenza Fact Sheet at [http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/health/health\\_1181.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/health/health_1181.html). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' publication "Pandemic Influenza Planning: A Guide for Individuals and

Families” is available on their website at <http://www.pandemicflu.gov> and may be a useful resource in your family’s planning.

If you are planning any travel, please review the updated country and avian influenza information from the Department of State's Consular Information Sheets at <http://travel.state.gov>, or by calling the Department of State's toll-free number, 1-888-407-4747, or if calling from overseas, 202-501-4444.